

C I T I Z E N P O T A W A T O M I N A T I O N

HowNiKan

People of the Fire

HowNiKan December (Bbon Gises) 2010, vol. 31 issue 7

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Arena, Bowling Center, Clinic taking shape

Construction activity hits feverish pace at CPN

By GLORIA TROTTER/ Editor, Tecumseh Countywide News

The landscape in and around the Citizen Potawatomi Nation complex at Gordon Cooper Drive and Hardesty Road in south Shawnee has changed dramatically in recent weeks as the Nation expands its enterprises. One new building, FireLake Bowl, is almost complete. Exterior work is done and interior work is underway with completion set for February.

Its opening will mark the return of a modern bowling facility to the tribe's facilities. The Nation has been out of the bowling business for eight years. The previous facility, located just north of the new facility, was closed to expand the tribe's casino operation.

FireLake Bowl will have 24 lanes, with new state-of-the-art Brunswick equipment. The building, planned as a family fun center, will also house other games and a Subway.

Just to the east of that building, behind FireLake Discount Foods, steel is in place for an arena that will host events such as concerts, livestock shows, and Motocross.



The steel structure of the new CPN arena, located immediately west of FireLake Discount Foods, is taking shape.

The 60,000-square-foot arena is 48 feet tall and will seat about 5,000 people. It will have a concrete floor so dirt we can be used when it is needed. And, there will be electrical outlet drops about every 20 feet or so. It also is scheduled for completion in February, barring bad weather.

"The Citizen Potawatomi Nation elected officials are proud of the construction progress that has been made recently," Vice Chairman Linda Capps said. "In addition to the bowling center and the events center, several other construction projects are planned for 2011. The weather, of course, is a determining factor in how much will be accomplished in the next few months. We are excited about bringing new sports and entertainment venues to our community."

Those other projects include a new health clinic west of FireLake Grand Casino. Already under construction, the inside work is now being completed. But that's not all.

"On the drawing board for the next year or so are a Youth Council building with a gymnasium, adjacent to the current health clinic on Gordon Cooper Drive. The tribe



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CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

See CPN BUILDING PROJECTS on page 4

Walking On

Cheryl Ann Holeman-Stice



Cheryl Ann Holeman-Stice was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma on August 4, 1947. She walked on on November 7, 2010. Her family moved to Tulsa, where Cheryl graduated a Nathan Hale Ranger, Class of 1965. She attended Oklahoma State University and has remained a Cowboys fan all these years.

Cheryl was a talented pianist and organist. She was a member of White City Baptist Church before she became the pianist at Sheridan Road Baptist Church. At Sheridan Road, she united with longtime friend, David Brent Stice, and they had two beautiful daughters - Amy Herring and Betsy Stice.

Cheryl played the piano and organ for several Tulsa churches for more than 40

years. She was also a dedicated employee for the City of Tulsa and retired from the Tulsa Police Department of Internal Affairs in May of this year. She looked forward to her retirement at her home in the country and spent her free time with her grandsons Hunter and Brody Herring.

Some of her favorite things were riding her lawnmower in her "lawn-mowing hat," sitting on her porch listening to the music of the wind chimes, playing her piano, and movie nights with her family.

Cheryl was a dear friend to many. She knew the true meaning of unconditional love and shared that with the people in her life.

A Celebration of Life Service was held for Cheryl Stice on Thursday, November 11, 2010, with the Rev. Mary Anne Harris officiating.

Donald Evan Kennedy

Donald Evan Kennedy, 81, of Topeka, Kansas died on Thursday, November 11, 2010. He was born April 18, 1929, in Silver Lake, Kansas, the son of James A. and Maude L (Johnson) Kennedy.

Don was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict. He was an avid outdoorsman - hunting, fishing, and shooting trap. Sur-



living are his wife of 48 years, Pauline (Kinnett) Kennedy of Topeka; three sons, J.C. Kennedy and his wife Beth of Scranton, Evan Kennedy of Topeka, and Wendall Kennedy and his wife Marci of Overland Park, Kansas; a sister, Elsie Pontillo and her husband Roger of Aurora, Colorado; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2010 at Silver Lake Cemetery with military honors conducted by a Fort Riley U.S. Army Detail. Don lay in state after 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 13, 2010, at Penwell-Gabel Southeast Chapel, 2843 S.E. Minnesota Ave., where the family received friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

To leave a special message for the family online, visit, www.PenwellGabel.com.

Angler's Prayer

God grant that I may live to fish,
until my dying day,
and when it comes
to my last cast,
I then most humbly pray,
when in the Lord's
safe landing net,
I'm peacefully asleep,
that in his mercy I be judged,
as big enough to keep.

Thomas Lance Peddicord

Thomas Lance Peddicord 85, of Wamego, Kansas, died on Sunday, February 1, 2009 at the Alma Manor. Tom was born on August 30, 1923 in rural Wamego, Kansas, the son of Robert Reason and Nettie Jeannette (Craig) Peddicord. He at-



tended local schools and graduated from Wamego High School in 1942. Tom served in the Merchant Marines during WWII as a radio operator performing Morse Code and ship-to-ship messages.

He spent most of his life as a rancher, and he and his family ranched in Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska. He returned to Wamego five years ago.

Tom married Jean Beard on April 6, 1947 in Fredonia, Kansas. She survives at their home. Tom is also survived by his daughter, Jean Ann Wieland of Alma, Kansas; three sons, Stan Peddicord and his wife Shari of Sheridan, Wyoming, Steve Peddicord and his wife Diane of Torrington, Wyoming, and Thomas "Turk" Peddicord and his wife Judy of Alma; a sister, Rita Groess and her husband Erich of Lakewood, Colorado; two brothers, Leo Peddicord, of Topeka, Kansas and Gerald Peddicord and his wife Cozy of Pottsboro, Texas; nine grandchildren, Tom Peddicord, Justin Peddicord, Matt Peddicord, Luke Peddicord, Cody Peddicord, Chris Peddicord, Aaron Koehler, Hilary Peddicord, and Bailey Wieland; 16 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a son, Bradford Peddicord; a grandson, Heath Koehler; and two brothers, Robert Peddicord and Ellis Peddicord.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Alma Manor. They may be sent in care of Campanella-Evans Mortuary. Online condolences may be made at www.campanellafuneral.com.

HOWNIKAN

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Vice Chairman - Linda Capps

Sec./Treasurer - D. Wayne Trousdale

Editor - Michael Dodson

Toll-Free Number: 800-880-9880

John Wayne Twigg Jr.

John Wayne Twigg Jr. passed away in Topeka, Kansas on December 2, 2010, just short of his 70th birthday. He was born on December 16, 1940 in Nevada, Missouri, the son of John Wayne Twigg Sr. and Alice V. (Adams) Twigg.

He began his elementary education in Plains, Kansas, and then graduated from Baldwin High School in Baldwin, Kansas in 1959. He continued his schooling at Kansas University for one year then transferred to a technical school in Kansas City, Missouri, completing his degree in electronics. Working in this field took him to Iowa, Florida (to the NASA program), Atari (in Silicone Valley in California), and Hughes Aircraft in Los Angeles. In later years, he lived in Woodland and Placerville in California before moving to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian elder housing complex in Rossville, Kansas.

To family and friends, he was known as J.W. Although he never married, he was lovingly known as "Uncle Jay" by many nieces and nephews as well as by many friends. He enjoyed family, his church, reading the newspaper (especially the classified section to find job prospects for himself and family members), his dogs, and long drives in whatever area he was living. He liked to go to drag races, sometimes bringing trophies home himself.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister Alois Potter, sisters-in-law Linda (Sparks) Twigg and Phyllis Twigg; and his nephews Douglas Potter and Rex Twigg.

He leaves behind his sister Karmin McCrory of Davis, California; two brothers, Harold of Woodland, California and Frank of Sacramento, California; many nieces and nephews; an uncle, Frank Adams of Liberal, Missouri; and many cousins.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2010 at the Lamb-Roberts Funeral Home, 712 9th St., Baldwin City, Kansas with Pastor Tony Cash officiating. Graveside services were held at 3:00 p.m. that same day at Worsley Cemetery south of Bronaugh, Missouri. Family and friends were requested to meet at the cemetery.

The family suggests expressions of sympathy be in the form of memorials to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Memorials may be left at or mailed to Lamb-Roberts Funeral Home, P.O. Box #64, Baldwin City, KS 66006. E-mail condolences may be left

for the Twigg family at www.Lamb-Roberts.com.

Charles A. Gardom

Charles A. Gardom, 80, of Las Cruces, New Mexico walked on on November 15, 2010. He was born in Choctaw, Oklahoma on March 25, 1930, the son of Dale Marshall and Minnie (Tescier) Gardom.

Charles worked for El Paso Natural Gas Co. in several different locations for 34 years before retiring in 1983.

He is survived by two brothers, Joseph W. Gardom of Las Cruces and Paul E. Gardom, both of Las Cruces; two sisters, Zula G. Jolly of Las Cruces and Hester G. Brunt of El Paso, Texas; and a stepson, Glynn Brandon of Prescott, Arizona.

Dorothy "Dottie" Cummins



Family and friends mourn the loss of Dorothy "Dottie" Cummins, age 81, of Casper, Wyoming. She was born on June 13, 1929, in Imperial, Nebraska, a daughter of Phoebe and Clarence Smith. She died Thursday, November 4, 2010, from complications of a stroke.

One of nine children, her upbringing of hard work and the struggles of the time formed an attitude of perseverance she followed throughout her life. She attended elementary and high school in Haigler, Nebraska. Accomplishments included being a champion speller and selection to the Colorado State Rural School Choir.

One of her great joys was cooking for others. From 1973 to 1979, she baked for

schools in the Albany County School District. She was a member of the cooks' organization, The Pan-Handlers. She very much enjoyed the work, and the kids enjoyed her kindness and sense of humor.

Following retirement, she worked at the University of Wyoming during registration. She looked forward to meeting students and helping facilitate part of their education.

On May 27, 1948, she married James Joseph "Joe" Cummins in Denver. The couple settled in Laramie, Wyoming in 1950. There, they raised Gary, Ed, Ellen, and Debby. They loved the community and their great friends. Many lifelong bonds were formed from the companionship of frequent card games.

She volunteered enthusiastically for Laramie groups. She gave her time freely to the Iverson Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, the United Way, VFW Auxiliary, Laramie Women's Club, and the Women of St. Matthew's. Many bazaars, cookouts, and fundraisers benefited from her cooking and quilting talents.

She was very interested in and proud of her heritage as a descendent of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Her greatest gift was the attention and love given to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The countless games played, books read, and stories she told gave these children a great foundation. They were always in her heart and her conversations.

She is survived by Joe, her husband of 62 years; two sons, Gary and his wife, Susan, and Ed and his wife, Pat; two daughters, Ellen and her husband, Dale, and Debby and her husband Rick; a brother, Lloyd Smith and his wife, Angie; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. One great-grandchild and one great-grandchild are on the way.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, four sisters, and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were held at 1 p.m. on November 27 at St. Matthew's Cathedral with the Very Rev. Marilyn Engstrom officiating. A reception at the church followed. Cremation took place under the direction of Bustard's Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the St. Matthew's Cathedral Women's Guild or the Iverson Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, both of Laramie.

Jim C. LeClair



Jim C. LeClair passed away in Wasilla, Alaska on January 15, 2010. He was born on December 15, 1933 in Shawnee, Oklahoma. He is survived by Linda, his sweetheart of 28 years, who shared his love of his adopted state of Alaska. Other survivors are two sons and three daughters: Joe Keith LeClair of Longview, Texas, Jimmy LeClair of Denver, Colorado, Rhonda Meyers of Corvallis, Oregon, Shelley Moser of Bethany, Oklahoma, and Julie Embirlicos of England; two sisters, Bobbie June LaClaire of Shawnee, Oklahoma and Billie Jean Qualls of McKinney, Texas. His parents, Berta and Henry LaClaire of Shawnee, had passed on before him. Other survivors are nieces Janet Pettus of Shawnee, Karen Whittington and Debbie Bradshaw, both of McKinney; nephews Tim Pettus of Shawnee and Mike Qualls of McKinney; five grandchildren; and several grand-nieces and nephews, who were always glad to see their "Uncle."

Jim was a good athlete who excelled as a pitcher in high school and American Legion baseball, having pitched no-hitters in competition games. He was also a fine actor who had the lead role in *Heaven Can Wait*, his 1951 senior class play. For this acting role, he learned to play the saxophone and to jump rope as professional boxers do when performing warm-up exercises. His performance in the play received great reviews in the Shawnee News-Star.

Jim volunteered for the U.S. Army after high school graduation. Following basic training, he was assigned to the Military Po-

See Walking On on page 4

Walking on con't. from page 3

lice (MP). The Korean War was then in progress, but Jim completed his service stateside.

After his military service, Jim pursued several vocations, including acting, automobile sales, oil-field drilling, engineering, and college work at both Oklahoma University and Central State College in Edmond, Oklahoma.

In the mid-50s, Jim was employed by a contract seismograph field party, searching for oil and natural gas in New Mexico. This was the start of 35 years in the oil and gas exploration profession. For the next 35 years, Jim would work numerous areas all over the United States. From his initial assignment in New Mexico, he would work in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Arkansas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, and Alaska. It was Alaska that he decided to make his home, and he spent approximately 35 years there.

Several years of his time in Alaska were spent in Prudhoe Bay, on the North Slope by the Beaufort Sea area. Atlantic Richfield Oil Co. (ARCO) constructed a very large complex there in the 60s to develop the Prudhoe Bay oil field. This area continues to produce much of the oil and natural gas needed in the "Lower 48" to this day.

Another of Jim's assignments in Alaska was as a representative of ARCO in liaison with the native Alaskans in the area of training and communications between ARCO and the natives. As a Citizen Potawatomi Nation member, he felt great pride in this assignment.

His 35-plus years in the oil exploration profession included assignments as land permitter, surveyor, seismic field crew manager, contract seismic supervisor, and constructor engineer. In the late 70s, he returned to Texas and formed a contract surveying company. He supplied surveying services for seismograph crews, working for clients in the exploration: for oil and gas. When exploration declined in the early 80s, he returned to his beloved Alaska and tried his hand at prospecting for gold in the riverbeds of central Alaska. He retired from this endeavor to enjoy his hunting, fishing, and gardening and the beauty of his adopted state, Alaska.

Another of his accomplishments was his self-taught ability to make beautiful music with his guitar and banjo. He was also a talented singer, golfer, bowler, and chess player who enjoyed all professional sports.

In addition to his loving family, Jim was blessed to have had many friends, including two special friends from their boyhood days in Shawnee - Dean Vanderberg and Les Ferris, both of Oklahoma City. Another special friend from Alaska is Tim Mundy, who worked at Prudhoe Bay on the North Slope.

It should also be noted that, for more than 62 years, Jim was like a brother, rather than a brother-in-law, to Bob Qualls, Billie Jean's husband. Their camaraderie and friendly competition in sports and cards will be greatly missed.

Jim uniquely enriched the lives of those who knew and loved him and his memory will be deeply cherished.

E-mail your CPN legislator!!

CPN Construction, con't from page 1



FireLake Bowling's large sign and message board had been installed when this photo was shot on December 17, 2010.

will also add 20 units (10 buildings) to their elders housing complex on Father Joe Murphy Drive.

First National Bank, which is owned by the CPN, will build a branch near Hardesty and Gordon Cooper, and the tribe will soon build two grocery stores, one in McLoud and another on Highway 39 near Wanette.

CPN officials realize that there are many CPN people in the Wanette area. It was a center of tribal population in the 1870s and '80s. The Nation wants to assist with economic revitalization of that area, to give a reason for Wanette's young adults to return home after completing college.

Still on the horizon is a hotel at the FireLake Grand location. Plans call for 200-300 rooms and an event center larger than the current one, which seats about 1,700.

CPN officials are also working toward locating a small motel - 35-40 rooms - on

Hardesty Road near the casino and event center there. More upgrades to the RV park are also planned, making that area a destination for travelers.

Construction will begin soon on another fascinating project - an aviary for eagles. That facility will be off Hardesty Road east of Gordon Cooper Drive, just before Harrison.

The aviary, only the third of its kind in Oklahoma (the Iowa tribe has one in Perkins and the Comanches one at Cyril), will nurse injured eagles and other raptors, and have a legal supply of feathers for tribal members to use in ceremonies. It should be completed by March and should prove to be another tourist attraction and educational opportunity for the area.

The new projects make the coming year an exciting one for the tribe and the area.

Coulter: UN Declaration sets new agenda for US-Indian relations

(Editor's Note: In mid-December, Pres. Barack Obama promised to sign the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. CPN member/CPN Supreme Court Justice Robert Tim Coulter has worked for ratification of the Declaration since 1976. He commented for Indian Country Today.)

The United States government at last has officially endorsed the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and joined the international community in recognizing that American Indians and other indigenous peoples have a permanent

right to exist as peoples, nations, cultures, and societies.

The United States is the last of the four countries that voted against the U.N. Declaration in the U.N. to reverse its position. This endorsement reflects the worldwide acceptance of indigenous peoples and our governments as a permanent part of the world community and the countries where we live. The Declaration is the most significant development in international human rights law in decades. International human rights law now recognizes the rights of indigenous peoples as peoples, including

rights of self-determination, property, and culture.

For me, the United States' endorsement of the Declaration marks the culmination of over three decades of hard work by indigenous peoples and other members of the international human rights community. In 1976, when the Six Nations and I began the work of drafting and proposing a declaration to be adopted by the United Nations, we did not know that our idea would one day be universally accepted and supported first by indigenous peoples and eventually by the countries of the world. We knew of

the terrible inadequacy of legal regimes and the gross violations of indigenous peoples' human rights in most countries. We turned to international law primarily because of the need to overcome and improve national laws and practices and because of the desire to regain a place for indigenous peoples in the international community.

Our work to ensure justice for Indian nations in this country begins in earnest with the United States' endorsement of the U.N. Declaration. To see the promise of the Declaration become a reality, we must continue

See UN DECLARATION on page 17

Potawatomi Language Department

Mno wendem niba ga dbeshkat (Merry Christmas)

Mine mno webongek (and a Happy New Year)

It's that time of the year when Potawatomi people traditionally tell sacred stories. These stories were to be told only during the winter. It is believed this is the time of the year when the spirits are asleep.

In fact, the word winter -bbom- is related to the term -mbo- he/she is dead. It is that time of the year when things die as a part of the cycle of life.

Often little children would be scared by stories of the Windego (Weenduhgo). This monster was supposed to arrive during blizzards. Sometimes, people in a community might turn into a windego or man-eater. This creature would often be used to scare children, much as the boogey-man is used.

One might tell one's child to be good lest the windego get him.

This was a great time of the year to get together with family members and tell stories on cold nights, as well. We will try to share a couple of traditional stories with you that can be passed on in your own family. But, remember that the time for telling these is usually in the winter time.

Most stories relating to Nanabozho, also called Wiske the Potawatomi Trickster, are often reserved for this time of year. We are also going to be posting a number of Christmas songs translated into Potawatomi on the website. So, be sure to check www.Potawatomi.org for these.

Bbon Kedwenen - Winter Words Search

B O N S P B G Z K W D O L I B S
O A K I O H O O E V F B N O W B
N G E O N G N C F I E E D Q I E
I S N I G N H S A N H W K J W H
M D W A E K Z Y E Z E I E K K N
G Y A O S I E N A G T W M I W B
E W K E B K N N E A S W G A E A
T O N C T O O N E B O T A G B J
X Y E N G G W P F S R E T P S P
A S J C D A F I K N Y A T S O K
A N M N B B N A Y O B A W P W M
K O M M N E N Z E K M N O G E B
E U K X U T U K S E N Y A B N B
H O W I S H K P E M I S H K O S



CPN Language Program Director Justin Neely and tribal members who are learning their native language took their knowledge to the streets on the evening of December 16. To the delight of residents there, they went caroling in the Nation's Father Joe Murphy and Nichols Street elder housing complexes, singing the songs in Potawatomi.

To schedule the
CPN Veterans Organization Color Guard,
contact Herb Holton at 405-598-5984 or
e-mail him at herb39h@yalornet.com.

GMEK - snow shoes
BBON - winter
BIGEJI - he/she is cold
BISKOWAGEN - jacket/ coat
BISTABYAN - sled
BODWEGEN - fireplace
BONIMGET - it is snowing
GON - snow (once it is on the ground)
GONAZHENI - snow angel
GONMKEZNEN- snowshoes
GONNENE - snow man
KSENYA - it is cold
MJENKAWNEK - mittens
MKOM - ice
PONGES - he/she is so many snows old
(used to talk about age)
TKEYA - it is cool
WABMKO - polar bear
WABOYAN - blanket
WECHKSENYAK - north (direction
where is it cold)
WINDIGO - man-eating monster associ-
ated with winter

View
CPN
Legislative meetings
on
www.Potawatomi.org



CPN Veterans Organization



The Veterans Organization presented patriotic red, white, and blue shawls to Cultural Heritage Center staff members Cindy Stewart (shown here with Commander Keith Cagle) and Stacy Coon in appreciation for their work preparing the Korean War Veterans Banquet. The vets presented Tribal Heritage Project staff member Curtis Grant a color guard jacket to show thanks for his work on a video presentation about CPN veterans' efforts in the Korean War.

Bohzo, Veterans,

The CPN Veterans Organization had a great year in 2010. We are eagerly looking forward to an even better 2011.

We celebrated Christmas together on the evening of December 16 at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center's Long Room. Our party featured good food, great music by the Wooley Trio, and a marvelous time for fellowship.

During the celebration, the organization presented each member of the color guard a light blue jacket with the Veterans seal on it. This is protection in the event that Mother Nature, in the form of rain or snow, sneaks up on them again. The vets participated in the opening ceremony for Shawnee Veterans Memorial Park, and Mother Na-

ture decided to rain on their parade, with a deluxe drenching.

The next project is to honor our Vietnam Veterans. That will happen in the spring of 2011.

This Christmas, we added a Christmas wreath next to the veterans flag to honor those veterans who fought for us.

In our January meeting, Herb Holton will be stepping down as Treasurer. David Barrett will replace him. Bill Wano is staying as Secretary and Michael Able as Vice Commander. However, Herb will stay as color guard leader.

Have a great healthy New Year.

Keith Cagle
Commander/CPN Veterans Organization

YOUR CPN LEGISLATOR NEEDS YOU!

Due to privacy concerns, CPN legislators are not routinely given your street addresses. So, you as CPN citterns need to reach out to them!

If you are a CPN member and would like to receive regular e-mailings of information from your Citizen Potawatomi Nation legislator, please send him or her an e-mail the legislator's e-mail address.

Please include your name, e-mail address, home phone number, cell phone number, and street address.

You can find your legislator's address and e-mail address at www.Potawatomi.org/Government/Legislature/default.aspx/.

CPN member triumphs in race for mayor of California city

Jäger sets out to “Build a Better Eureka”

Campaigning with the slogan “We Can Build a Better Eureka,” Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Frank Jäger has earned the mayoralty of his hometown, located “along the spectacular Northern California coastline 280 miles north of San Francisco”. On November 2, 2010, Jäger got 52.47% of the vote to defeat two other candidates, Peter La Vallee and Marshall Spalding.

Jäger is a former law enforcement officer and county coroner who had served as a Eureka city council member from 1992 to 1998 and had been elected to a four-year term on the council in 2008.

In September, Jäger kicked off his campaign in front of the Boys and Girls Club Teen Center in Eureka’s 4th Ward to emphasize his commitment to the city’s future through supporting its children. “As political leaders, we need to provide them the opportunities to live in this county,” he said about the children of Eureka. The new mayor has been Troop Leader of local Boy Scouts of America Troop 54 since 1969 and has served on the Board of Director for Telos Youth Outpost, whose mission is to assist troubled teens as they get their lives back on track.

Campaigning for his new position, Jäger said, “During my years as a City Council member, I have worked with other Council members to spur development on our waterfront. Progress has been slow, but we are now beginning to see improvements. This work will continue and we will someday have a showcase we can be proud of.”

One of Jäger’s major tasks will be re-development of Eureka’s “Balloon Track” area. Historically, it was used as a railroad switching, maintenance, and freight yard from the late 1800s until the closure of the rail lines in the mid-1980s. It has been described by the media as “a hellacious mess.”

It is a vacant parcel of land, often soaked through with petroleum and other nasty chemicals, which had the potential to be-



In September 2010, Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Frank Jäger announced his ultimately successful campaign for mayor of Eureka, California.

come prime real estate. Jäger believes that principles he and others employed to re-develop another part of Eureka can bring new life to the Balloon Track. “The clean-up of the area west of Broadway and Wabash brought development and new commercial business to that area,” he said. “I am proud to be a part of the City Council that made that happen. These businesses brought hundreds of jobs to our area as well as additional sales tax revenue to the City for vital services.”

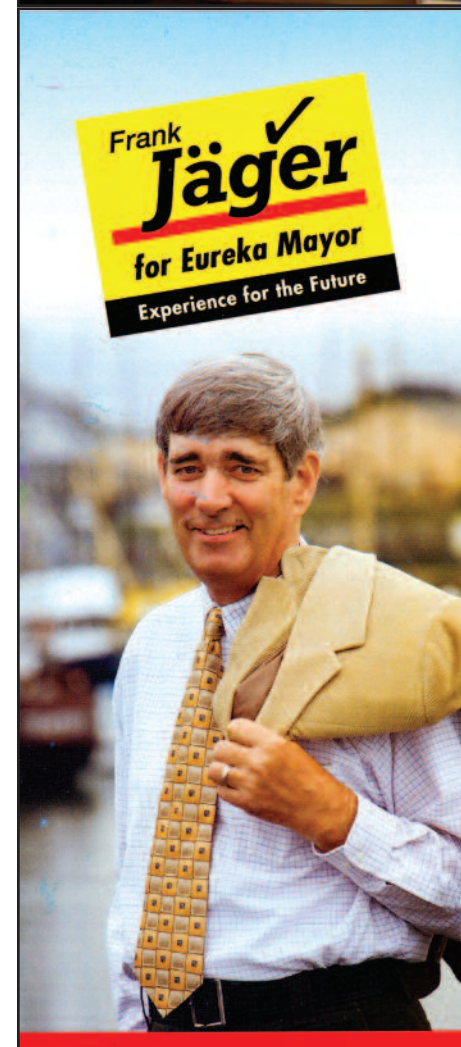
Eureka’s new mayor has lived in his home town for more than 60 years. He attended Eureka public schools before attending College of the Redwoods and Humboldt State University then serving in the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Guard. He was inducted into the College of the Redwoods Alumni Hall-of-Fame in 2000 and was awarded the Boys & Girls Club “Youth Mentor of the Year” award in 2006.

During 38 years in law enforcement, Frank Jäger served as an officer, detective, and crime scene investigator with the Eu-

reka Police Department then as a criminal investigator for the Humboldt County District Attorney’s office.

As Jäger embarks on this new phase of service to his community, he is employing this philosophy: “I know how important good public safety is to everyone. I can represent this City with dignity. I will respect the views of all our citizens. Much of good government is about listening, compromise, and not having an agenda. It is about doing what is best for the entire community.”

Jäger has been married to the former Sarah Aus for 37 years. They have raised four children: Joseph (34), Anne Smith (30), Katie Bowie (28), and Michael. Joseph and Anne were adopted from Korea when they were babies. In 2010, Anne wed Chris Smith, and they live in Redding, California. Katie is married to Jim Bowie, and they live in Eureka. Bowie is Native American, a member of the local Bear River Clan. The Jägers’ two grandchildren are Trinity and Autumn Bowie, both of whom are members of the Bear River Tribe.



At top, Frank Jäger works for his constituents as a Eureka city councilman. Below, he used this brochure to win the race for mayor.

Major Report Details How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease

Every exposure to tobacco smoke can damage DNA and increase risks for heart attack and stroke, according to the recently released U.S. Surgeon General's Report How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease: The Biology and Behavioral Basis for Smoking-Attributable Disease. State health officials urge all smokers to quit for the New Year.

"Everyone knows smoking is deadly, but this report provides new biological evidence on exactly how tobacco smoke causes harm," said Oklahoma State Health Commissioner Dr. Terry Cline. The new Surgeon General's report concludes that:

- Tobacco smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals, including hundreds that are toxic and at least 70 that cause cancer.

- Every exposure to the cancer-causing chemicals in tobacco smoke can damage DNA in a way that leads to cancer.

- Exposure to secondhand smoke has an immediate adverse impact on the cardiovascular system, damaging blood vessels, making blood more likely to clot and increasing risks for heart attack and stroke.

- Smoking makes it harder for women to get pregnant and can cause miscarriage, premature birth, low birth weight and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). It also harms male fertility.

"Poisonous chemicals in tobacco smoke travel quickly from the lungs into the blood, reaching every organ in the body," said Robert McCaffree, MD, Regents Professor of Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care at the OU College of Medicine. "Smoking alters blood chemistry and can lead to clots that block blood flow to the heart, brain, or legs. This can trigger heart attack or stroke. When nonsmokers breathe secondhand smoke, platelets in their blood get sticky and may form clots, much as they do in people who smoke. Even brief exposures can trigger a heart attack. Children breathing secondhand smoke may develop bronchitis, pneumonia, and ear infections."

The report also provides information on why smoking makes diabetes harder to control and how every cigarette smoked damages the lungs. "A decision to quit smoking for the New Year may save your life while protecting your family, friends and coworkers from secondhand smoke," said Cline.

Methamphetamine use and Suicide
are two of the greatest problems
facing today's Native Teens.
Now, YOU can help the Citizen
Potawatomi Nation get the message
out. Submit original artwork to our
billboard design contest, and you
could win a new iPod touch.

Four winners will be chosen. 1 in each age group, (12-15; 16-19) and for each subject (meth use, suicide.) Entries can be photography, hand drawn/painted, or original computer graphic work. Entries may be no larger than 4" x 12". If you have any questions regarding this competition, please call Jeff at (405) 598-0797, or email jeff.foresee@potawatomi.org. All entries must be received by January 28, 2011 at the following address:

Tribal Youth Program
Attn: Jeff Foresee
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Rd
Shawnee, OK 74801

For more information, visit www.potawatomi.org and click on "news"

For more information
on suicide visit
www.suicide.org

For methamphetamine:
teens.drugabuse.gov



Help us bring these serious problems
out of the darkness.

2011 Firelodge Art Competition Registration Form (please include with submission)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Tribal Affiliation: _____ Enrollment #: _____

Date of Birth: _____

I, _____, the parent of _____ allow the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to use the image created for this art competition in various advertisements including but not limited to billboards, posters, and flyers promoting the prevention of suicide or the use of methamphetamines.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Youth Signature: _____ Date: _____

Real Estate Services

Your Department of Real Estate Services is located in the northwest corner of the second floor of the First National Bank Building, Suite 204. The staff is in their offices most of the time; however, the duties of several of the staff require them to be away from their desks. It is recommend that, if you have business with any particular staff member, you call and set up an appointment. The number is 405-395-0113.

OIL AND GAS LEASES: O&G Lease sale is pending on allotment 821 809 Frank Davis. Majority consent has been received from the mineral owners and the lease package is being completed for submission to Phoenix Oil Co. DRES is working on the procedure for a future O&G lease sale on the allotments that do not have an existing O&G lease.

FARMING & GRAZING LEASES: Farming & Grazing leases that are approved by the BIA for another 5 year lease term which will begin on 01/01/2011 and expire on 12/31/2015 include as follows:

- o 821 87 Ellen Yott & 821 100 Joseph Haas
- o 821 326 Myra-Nahk-sa
- o 821 714 Cora Gregson
- o 821 C 33 E Mary Bourbonnais

The following lease applications were submitted and approval is pending BIA action:

- o 821 S 575 E Almira Bayliss
- o 821 1325 D Harriet Pratt

Six allotments have Farming and Grazing leases which will expire on 12/31/2011. A 90-Day Notice is being sent to the owners to advise them of the procedure for obtaining a new lease:

- o 821 97 Clarissa Mars
- o 821 219 Alexander Rhodd
- o 821 367 Peter Tescier
- o 821 S 510 Rozette Trombla
- o 821 748 Joseph L. Acton
- o 821 900 Madeline Denton

Three allotments have leases which will

expire on 12/31/2010; however, these allotments did not receive a bid in the 2010 lease sale. They will be included in the lease sale for 2011.

- o 821 395 C Peter Curley
- o 821 809 Frank Davis
- o 821 C 133 John Phelps

CPN does lease fee or trust lands for cropping or grazing purposes. The tracts leased are those for which development is not planned for the foreseeable future. Two leases are now being negotiated, including:

- o Coder Property
- o Giverney Property

RIGHTS-OF-WAY: Pipeline rights-of-way on the following leases will expire in 2011. This office will be contacting the owners with information on the negotiation of new easements.

- o 821 50 Thomas Nona
- o 821 116 John Baptiste Vasseur
- o 821 803 Martha Smith

PROBATES: The Administrative Law Judge has rendered his decision on the disposition of the trust assets, real land personal property of the following persons:

- Lavina May Nahnogah Leach dob 05-16-2010 - Contest Period Ends 03-08-2010
- Charles William Harrison, dob 10-07-1923 - Contest Period Ends 01-25-2010
- David Eugene Lehman, dob 03-01-1958 Contest Period Ends 11-01-2010
- Velma Pensoneau Jones, dob 1914 - Contest Period Ends 12-01-2010

DID YOU KNOW? A previous issue contained a brief discussion of "Indian Lands" and property taxes. As most of you are aware, property tax time has come and DRES is in the process of paying property taxes on CPN fee properties. The property tax bill that the Nation will pay for 2010 is \$102,619.81 divided among Pottawatomie County, Hughes County, Comanche County, Greer County, Seminole County, and Shawnee County, Kansas.

Senior Support Network expands

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has announced an additional service for its tribal members in Kansas. CPN member Thelma Campbell, coordinator of the Nation's Senior Support Network, says Kansas native Joan Winters has joined the SSN. Winters, a Topeka resident, earned a baccalaureate degree in nursing at Emporia State College. She comes to the CPN/SSN from a position in an assisted living center for elders.

Winters says she enjoys the rewards of successfully advocating for elders. As this new Kansas portion of the Senior Support Network gets underway, it will serve Citizen Potawatomi Nation members who live in a 50-mile radius around Rossville.

Winters says she will perform health-related checks for CPN elders in that service area. She will also perform some household tasks which are past the elders' capabilities. And, she will gather information for a re-



The Senior Health Network's Joan Winters (left) and Theresa Campbell are learning what CPN elders' problems are and helping solve them.

source directory for Kansas' CPN elders. Until Winters has a permanent telephone number and e-mail address, elders who want to reach her can call Campbell at 405-273-5236 or e-mail her at TCampbell@Potawatomi.org.



Merry Christmas and a Most Prosperous 2011

"The Native American Speaks"
on KGFF-AM (1450)
or KOKC-AM (1520) or
www.Potawatomi.org

Library Musings

Our tribe has a game in the casino by the grocery store (FireLake Entertainment Center) called "Outback Jack." In it, when you hit the bonus, one of your options is to prospect in a mine. If you spot a shiny dot, you begin to dig until you expose a nugget or a jewel. Then, you reap a reward or suffer a cave-in on your head and body. Research is a lot like that!

You go through all the stuff in your personal collections that your spouse promised to burn if you die first and you uncover a nugget that triggers an excellent, informative, and valuable memory. In some cases, it might be those great guys you served with in combat in WWII, Vietnam, Iraq, or Afghanistan. On a given day in a given situation, those brothers (and, now-a-days, sisters) were more important than your blood kin.

Or it might be something that goes back to your grandparents that you didn't know before. For example; the German woman talking about her starving contemporaries greeting conquering soldiers with "Fiegen! Fiegen! Brot, brot."

So the "Master Race" had been reduced to that! That reminds this writer of some memorable lines in a poem that say: O those three pink shells? There are always things one never tells.

That brings us to a Potawatomi ancestor, who at 63, wrote about our ancestors being chased to Canada to find "A Place of Refuge for All Time."

For example, he writes a note entitled *Groups of Wisconsin Indian Potawatomi in Canada*. In it, he offers this important information on Potawatomi ancestors going to Canada:

<u>Potawatomi Indians from</u>	→	<u>Potawatomi Indians to</u>
Milwaukee, Sheboygan	→	Cape Croker or the Saugeen Peninsula
Door County Potawatomi		
Manitowoc and Two Rivers	→	Manitolin Island at Sheebegwoning
Potawatomi		
Keewaunee Potawatomi	→	Wikwemekong, Parry Sound
Chicago and some Milwaukee	→	Stony Point and Walpole Island
Potawatomi		
Racine, Kenosha, Waukesha,	→	Christian Island at South End
Wewkegan, Georgian Bay, also Morrenville,		
Manitowoning, Wikwemlkingaig,		
Honey Harbor, South Bay, and Kettle Point		

Finding these nuggets, I cannot understand how people here in the tribe fail to ac-



knowledge the existence of their own families because they aren't close enough physically to utilize as a family resource. I often hear local complaints about this or that from elders here who literally don't know who they are, who their family is, where their ancestors are, or where their kinfolk live today.

While they might know who their grandmother or sometimes even know their great-grandmother, they know very little about their Potawatomi ancestors. For this reason, they waste power of cultural knowledge, language, and even political influence when they could be using these things as glue, to help us survive and grow.

Of course you feel pride when a copy of a Prettyman and Cornish photo of Jim (Watho huck) and his twin Charley Thorpe shows up because of Jim Thorpe's celebrity and the fact that he was Potawatomi on his mother's side. But what about the seventy-three (73) chiefs from one village of

Potawatomi in Wisconsin. It makes the family claim of being the son or grandson



of the last hereditary chief while wearing a Plains Indian headdress - more than a little strange.

Simon Kagauhdos is a tremendous resource for Potawatomi information, and many of his notes are in series and subseries in the Cultural Heritage Center. One thinks of a "fountain of information constantly flowing from its source."

I watched an article on television about the cartoonist Gary Trudeau who related the experience of having some newspaper editors refusing to publish his cartoons in their papers. Trudeau was upset. His syndicator took him to lunch, saw his concern, and said to him, "Gary, they're going to DIE."

They did, and in many cases, so did their newspapers. Gary Trudeau and Doonesbury are merely increasing their legacy.

Guess what: All of you elders are going to die. What is your legacy? Will you change the future of the Potawatomi for the better, for the worse, or not even make an impression? My personal dream is for jage nagonan (all my relations) to come together. If we help the dominant (American) culture see a better way to live and work together, that will be good. But, it requires a lot of hard work in many areas.

Bama pi for now,
Nswemakek

Legislative Columns

District #1 - Roy Slavin

Bozho, Nikon,

I have just returned home after attending a "Native American Health Care Conference." This was a day-and-a-half of very good information for me because I am on the CPN Health and Education Committee within the legislature. More than 200 delegates from different tribes and health service units attended. This presented an excellent opportunity for networking during the periods between presentations from the 27 different speakers.

The speakers were an excellent assortment of medical professionals involved with Indian Health Services. Much of the conference was about the federal government's "Affordable Care Act," which contains numerous provisions of importance to American Indians and Alaska Natives. Of particular interest to me were the discussions on obesity, diabetes, and elder care,

These topics are important to me because almost one-third of American Indian elders have been diagnosed with diabetes, the highest prevalence of any ethnic group. This is more than twice the rate among Whites, which is 13%. When you look at the list of persons likely to develop Type II Diabetes, it starts out with: 1) Those who have a family history of diabetes; 2) Members of such ethnic groups as American Indians; 3) Those who are overweight; and 4) People who are 45 or older. The list goes on but I think you can see that we American Indians need to be aware of the risk and know what measures can be taken to prevent the onset of Type II Diabetes.

To prevent diabetes, people who participated in a diabetes prevention program: 1) Lost five to seven percent of their body weight (10 to 14 pounds for a person who weighs 200 pounds); 2) Were physically active for 30 minutes a day, five days week; and 3) Made healthier food choices and limited the calories and fat in their diet.

For more information about preventing diabetes, visit the National Diabetes Education Program's website at www.yourdiabetesinfo.org



Although both diabetes and obesity risk factors are often associated with race, age, and family history, it is becoming clearer that the conveniences of modern life also contributes to development of both diseases. For example, sedentary lifestyles (reduced physical activity) and the popularity of high-fat, high-energy diets (think "super-size me") and convenience foods are known to lead to obesity. But, do they also cause diabetes?

Of the people diagnosed with Type II Diabetes, about 80 to 90 percent are also diagnosed as obese. This fact provides a clue to the link between diabetes and obesity. Understanding the causes of the disease, it is hoped, will allow us to prevent diabetes in the future.

This article is being written by an overweight Type II diabetic who has known these facts and has haphazardly watched his diet and exercise routine but who is, as of now, dedicated to a strict diabetic diet and exercise routine. If you are diabetic, won't you please join me in this endeavor?

I will end this article as always with a request for your contact information. If you do not receive e-mail from me, it's because I don't have your contact information. Also, I want to remind you that, if you have an elder in your family 90 or older, please I would like to have their contact information or yours.

Migwetch,
Roy Slavin, District #1

District #2 - Eva Marie Carney

Bozho/Hello,

I hope you are looking forward to 2011 and that it brings you peace and personal joy. As the year comes to a close, there are many reasons we can be proud to be Potawatomi. One of them is that in November the Citizen Potawatomi Nation was one of five tribal nations awarded "High Honors," and a \$20,000 prize, by the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, for our Constitutional Reform initiatives. Here is the statement that accompanied the award:

In the 1970s, the Citizen Potawatomi embarked on a 30-year program of revitalization, one that would strive to make the tribe's government more inclusive, responsive and stable. In 1985, a new constitution made absentee voting possible; and in 2007, the tribe adopted a new constitution that put into place a three-branch system of government, eliminated secretarial elections and created the Citizen Potawatomi legislature. Today, the legislature meets virtually and all meetings are streamed and archived on the Internet.

The award is conferred on tribes that are solving complex governmental issues in meaningful ways, for their inspiring work that stands as examples from which other governments can learn. The award was presented at a ceremony held in conjunction with the 68th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The CPN was in good company. Other top honorees were:

- the Salish Community, for its work to provide an environmental policy platform for American Indian and First Nations governments, state and provincial governments, and the U.S. and Canadian federal governments, all with interests in the Salish Sea region, to discuss and determine effective environmental strategies and practices;
- the Air Quality Program of the Gila River Indian Community, through which the tribe has strengthened and asserted sovereignty at the county, state, and federal levels, including affecting the level of accountability of the Phoenix metropolitan



area;

- the Leadership Institute at the Santa Fe Indian School, which since its 1997 founding, aims to create a dynamic learning environment where community members not only learn and teach, but also are able to actively contribute to the success of their nations, focusing on the themes of leadership, community service, public policy, and critical thinking; and

- the Newtok Relocation Effort, Native Village of Newtok, a traditional Yup'ik village located on the Ninglick River in far-western Alaska, which has watched its land disappear at an average rate of 82 feet a year due to massive erosion caused by climate change and has taken the lead in working with dozens of government agencies to spearhead its relocation efforts to a village nine miles south.

If you want to learn more about the award and the Nations honored, you can start with Michelle Tirado's article, published 12/2/10, "Honoring Nations Honors 10 Stellar Tribal Governance Programs," available through a Google search.

In early December, I had a grand time at the Art Market, held annually at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian at both the Washington, D.C. and New York locations. I stayed close to home and visited the District's Market, where I was fortunate to run into another local CPN member, Paulette Wamego. She was also

there to soak in all the art and visit with the talented Native artists (the Market artists have to be selected to participate).

Two Potawatomi women were among the artists: Jennie Brown, a Pokagon Potawatomi from Michigan, and Pahponee, a Prairie Band Potawatomi/Kickapoo from Colorado. Jennie makes wonderful traditional Potawatomi black ash baskets, as do many of her aunts, uncles, cousins, and, now, her children. Pahponee is a self-taught clay artist who has re-learned the traditional pottery methods of the Woodlands as well as learning contemporary pottery-making techniques. Her work is very compelling.

Both women were very generous with their time and shared information about their approach to their art, and the hope that we will all be together next at the August 2011 Gathering of Nations in Michigan, hosted by the Hannahville Indian community. (Please check out Hannahville's website for more information about our host nation, and if you can, it would be great for you to start planning now to be part of the reunion too.)

I got a photo of Jennie's booth, which is below, but not Pahponee's. If you want to visit with either of them, Jennie's contact information is rjb@netpenny.net or 269.672.5162; Pahponee's website (with photos of her pottery is <http://www.pahponee.com/biography.html>.



(Potawatomi Jennie Brown from Michigan at her booth at the Market; the strawberry basket to the left was made by Jennie's daughter and has won a Best-in-Show ribbon. The ceremonial basket to the far left was made by Jennie's son. Many of the baskets on the table are Jennie's. These are all traditional Potawatomi black ash baskets.)

FireLake Designs

for logoed apparel,
company-monogrammed
promotional items,
and team uniforms!!

Please write to me by e-mail or regular mail and let me know you are out there and reading this column. And if you have family members who have not reached out to me yet, please ask them to do so. It's my pleasure (and my job!) to meet everyone and to help out those of you in District #2 who are looking for information or assistance of one sort or another.

I wish you joy, peace, good health and prosperity in the New Year, and thank you for the privilege of serving as your Legislator. This Pueblo storyteller nativity scene, by a Native American potter from the Jemez Pueblo, is in my CPN office year-round as my reminder of what this season means to me. Have a blessed Christmas!



Migwetch/Thank you,
Eva Marie Carney/Ojindiskwe
Legislator, District #2
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
701 8th Street NW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20001
ecarney@potawatomi.org
1.202.347.4424 (Local)

Visit the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center

1899 S. Gordon
Cooper Drive
Shawnee,
Oklahoma
Call 405-878-5830

District #3 - Robert Whistler

Bozho, Nikan (Hello, Friends),

In looking back at this last summer in Texas, we had a fairly high number of days with temperatures hotter than 100 degrees. That may mean we will be looking at a rather hard winter. What we saw around Thanksgiving could be the start of this winter season, although it is a bit early.

This month, I want to ask each of you, "How prepared for winter are you?" Our ancestors got ready with dried meat and other foods. They stocked up on wood and made sure the wigwam was solid and secure with blankets and other supplies.

For those of you with a fireplace, do you have any wood in case you lose electricity? Do you know where you can go for dry ice to keep what is in your freezer frozen for a few days? I know that most of our grocery stores do have it, but it will go fast if you and all of your neighbors start looking for it.

If you have a grill outside that you use for burgers or steaks in the summer, do you have an extra tank of propane? **(WARNING ... Under no circumstances should you ever bring one of these in doors for heat. The gases they give off are toxic and can kill!)**

I'm not suggesting you need to go out and buy your own generator. But some of the items are things that you might consider having for an emergency that would last a few days. It isn't a bad idea to have extra canned meat and vegetables and a way to keep warm without your normal power.

You also need to think about what you use almost every day. Your automobile! On Christmas Eve two years ago, we took a short day trip to look at the decorations at a new hotel. When we came out, the car's battery was dead! Fortunately, I keep jumper cables in each car. Do you have a set in case you find yourself in the same situation? They don't cost that much. And, if you call a tow truck to take care of you, it is probably a \$60.00 or \$70.00 bill versus jumper cables for less than \$20.00 at PEP Boys or any other auto parts store!

When is the last time you checked the air in your tires? Or for that matter, is the spare tire fully inflated? It is truly a shock, when you have a flat to then learn that your spare is low on air and it is late at night and nothing is open.



Now is the time to check the air in the spare tire, the water in the battery, power steering fluid, and brake fluid, and have your mechanic also look at the belts on the engine during your next tune up or oil change. Take out the lug wrench that is in your car. Make sure it fits all the lug nuts on all four wheels. Test it!

It sounds like I'm being too careful. Unfortunately, I once had a flat and found to my surprise that, when I had new tires mounted months before, the mechanic ruined one of the lug nuts on one of the wheels. The new nut he used as a replacement was a slightly smaller size nut, but the threads were OK. My wrench would not get that one off at the time and it called for a trip home to get another kind of wrench to handle the flat. So, don't take anything for granted. When you least expect it, things just don't go right!

If you live in an area that gets snow, then a shovel, a blanket, and something to put under the wheels in case you get stuck are good to have. When I lived in Virginia, I had a bag of kitty litter. It does a great job under the tires when you are stuck. It doesn't hurt to keep your gas tank filled, too.

Basically, check to be sure you are prepared for those possible little emergencies that tend to happen more often in the winter. A little preparation today may save you lots of aggravation and inconvenience later.

In closing, I again want to say that it is an honor to serve and represent you as the

tribal representative for District #3. I routinely send out information on short notice and do so by e-mail. If I don't have your e-mail address, I would appreciate your sending it to me so that you get the short-term notice on what is happening in our district. Just send me an e-mail and I will reply back and add you to my data bank.

Mno wendem niba ga dbeshkat
Merry Christmas

Bob Whistler/Bmashi
District #3 Representative
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
112 Bedford Road, Ste 116
Bedford, TX 7022-6297
817-282-0868 Office
817-545-1507 Home
RWhistler@Potawatomi.Org
CPN3Legislator@Yahoo.com

District #4 - Theresa Adame

Dear Friends,

There is a chill in the air in Kansas. That did not stop all the shoppers standing in line on Black Friday. I will admit I was among the early shoppers this year. Now let me explain why a perfectly sane person would get up and shop that early in the morning.

As in years past, my family adopted a family for Christmas. We elected to go a little "bigger" this year and adopted a single mother, recently out of work, with seven children, ages three weeks to nine years. My sisters, daughter, niece, and I were on a mission. How could we possibly miss all those early sales and let our adopted family down?

I am glad to say we had to have a personal shopper wheel out our packages at one store, and we had to unload the car once to go back for more. There was just no more room.

As I grew up, I was always told, "You will not be judged in the end for what you have, but what you have given to others." So, I challenge everyone to give a little this year. Your giving might be calling an elder during the holiday season or dropping a note to a person alone. And, please don't forget our soldiers away from home for the holiday.

When this time of year arrives, I also start thinking ahead to Family Reunion Festival. Maybe it is my desire for warm



weather again. This year, one of the honored families will be the Navarres. I am glad to hear from many people in my family who have already made their reservations and are attending for the first time. I urge anyone who has not attended to be there on the year that your family is being honored. It is a great opportunity to reconnect with all those lost aunts, uncles, and cousins.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Have a wonderful holiday.

Theresa Adame
2007 S. W. Gage
Topeka, KS 66604
TAdame@Potawatomi.org

District #5 - Gene Lambert

Bozho,

December is the month when we all celebrate Christmas. We not only celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ but also honor our friends and family ... remembering those who brought us through every day of the year preceding.

Our Ancestors did not celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ until the Europeans came to

this country and shared with us their religious beliefs. There had always been a realization of the Spirit, Mother Earth, or the Creator. The reality of something larger than us all provided humans with everything needed to survive as a people.

The Earth, water, the air we breathe, the lighted day, the beating of the heart where

the spirit lives - we gave thanks for that and the food we ate. To take the life of a lower animal or plant for food was a gift from the Creator and we did so in silent prayer. To exist and survive another day was because the Creator deemed it so.

We knew we needed to give back what we took, and we did.

We knew in the quiet of the forest and the stillness of the winds that there was more. Maybe there wasn't a word attached that the Europeans understood, so they believed they needed to teach us what we already knew - what we lived with and by on a daily basis.

Some Native American tribes in America believed that the story of Christmas and the birth of Jesus Christ aligned with tribal prophecies and that the message was consistent with the stories that had been handed down by their ancestors.

The story of Jesus being the "Light of the World" fit with existing beliefs regarding the birth of the **SUN**. The philosophy was replaced with the "coming of the **SON**" in Christianity.

Christmas was not widely accepted in this country until 1870 and did not become a National Holiday until that time. As a matter of fact, Connecticut had passed a law forbidding the celebration of Christmas.

The first state that accepted and acknowledged Christmas as we know it today



was Alabama, and that wasn't until 1836. Louisiana followed, along with Arkansas, in 1838.

With Native American people, Christmas has always been and is forever each day and in every way our beginning and our end. We are a special people who were given the knowledge, and today others have to relearn the truth in life.

Every day is Christmas ... That's how we should live ... Please have the very best Christmas ever and be a witness to all God has given us then and now.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Mno wendem niba ga dbeshkat

Eunice Imogene Lambert
Legislator, District #5

District #6 - Rande Payne

Bozho, Nikan,

The Christmas season is upon us, along with the New Year knocking on the door. The year 2010 has certainly been an eventful one for me. The most notable and most rewarding has been the birth of my first grand-child. I think one just isn't equipped to fully appreciate the blessing of a child during the early stages of his child-rearing years. The life lessons and experiences between those early years of adulthood and now have prepared me for this time of blessing. The birth of my granddaughter launches a new season in life for me and brings a joy that is beyond words.

The first decade of the new millennium has certainly been one for the record books for all mankind. So many changes, some welcome and some not. Nonetheless, time marches on bringing with it the promise of continued change. A new year and the start of a new decade are sure to be filled with

the things life is made of. Thanks to the hard work and leadership of Chairman Barrett and Vice Chairman Capps and so many of our other leaders committed to the advancement of our people, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is poised for continued growth and service to its members well into the future.

I would like to thank those who were able to come to the Tribal Area Gathering in Las Vegas on November 20, 2010. It was lots of fun. And as always, it was a great opportunity to meet some new folks and share good times with family and friends. We had members from several Districts attending, including Districts 5, 6, and 7 - which was great!

As usual Chairman John Barrett and Vice Linda Chairman Capps provided great information on the state of the Nation, including updates on our enterprises and the benefits available to our members. Chair-

man Barrett also talked about several of our ceremonies, explaining how they are performed and the significance behind them. Tribal Rolls Director Charles Clark was also there, providing assistance with enrollment and ID cards.

I wasn't expecting to see District #1 Representative Roy Slavin and his wife Julia there, but it was delightful to visit with them again. District #7 Representative Mark Johnson was there also and it was good to talk with him and exchange ideas for the future. A video presentation featuring many of our Korean War veterans was shown. It was quite moving to hear the stories of these brave Potawatomi men and women who've served our country. It is good that the time and resources were committed to preserving their stories for future generations.

It was a proud moment for me when my granddaughter was given a Pendleton blanket for being the youngest Potawatomi in attendance. That was very special to our entire family. And of course, no Potawatomi gathering would be complete without a fabulous meal! As at most gatherings, the food was very good. If you weren't able to come to the gathering this time around, maybe you can attend one in the future. You will have a wonderful time!

This is a special time of year filled with laughter and joy around our home. We have four December birthdays in our family. My wife Kim loves to cook and entertain, so each birthday means gathering around the dinner table over a great meal. The family member whose birthday we are celebrating gets to pick the menu, including the choice of cake.

But no one is excused from the table until we've gone all the way around with everyone sharing his or her high for the day and low for the day. This tradition always generates lots of conversation and laughter and love. We've started a new tradition in our home recently, asking friends and guests to autograph our kitchen wall. I know it sounds crazy but it is lots of fun and lets them know we love them and cherish their friendship.

Then, there's the Christmas performance at our Church the first weekend in December. Everything about this special evening touches our hearts and warms our souls in preparation for the Christmas season. Our campus is large enough to accommodate four different musical venues, providing



performance space for our choir and orchestra, a jazz band, a western band, and our praise team. Each venue provides a different type of food and about a 20-minute musical performance. Then it's off to the next venue. This year we added a manger scene outside, complete with live sheep and goats and, of course, baby Jesus and Mary and Joseph. It's a fantastic evening of heartwarming fun and fellowship.

No Christmas would be complete without opening presents and having family over for a Christmas day meal. Our children are grown now, but they know they can always count on spending Christmas day at mom's and dad's house. We enjoy having them over and, of course, this will be our first Christmas with our precious little granddaughter Emma Jo. We are looking forward to Christmas day with as much excitement and anticipation as ever!

I am very blessed and thank God for everything I have. But there are those less fortunate and in need of even the most basic things in life. Christmas is a season of giving so we help wherever we can, especially with needy children. Even though we may have plenty, there are those who have very little. We all know someone who is hurting or lonely or hungry or has lost his job. It's a great opportunity to show appreciation for what we have by giving of our time and resources to those in need. That feeling you get inside when you do something for someone in need is the greatest gift of all.

And now I close, wishing you the Merriest Christmas ever and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Migwetch,
Rande K. Payne, District #6 Representative
732 W. Oak Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291
800-880-9880 - 559-635-1039
www.randepayne.com
Rande.Payne@potawatomi.org

District #7 - Mark Johnson

Bozho,

Winter time has always been a time of reflection for me, after the long hot days of summer in California are over and the cold air and rain move into the great central valley where I was raised. I have once again found joy in sitting by a warm fire and reflecting back on the past year and beyond. I am grateful and humbled to be your representative to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Our common heritage and history is one to be proud of, so I would like to say once again, as we gather our families together for this holiday season, take a moment to honor that common heritage that we all have.

On November 20th, I had the great pleasure of attending a joint Tribal Area Gathering in Las Vegas. The event was well-attended, and a few members from District #7 were present.

I have noticed over the years that the subject of health care always comes up, so I would like to take just a moment to talk about that. Most of the questions center on the theme of when is the tribe going to provide health care to its members? Well, the short answer is it does. If you can reach in your pocket and pull out your tribal membership card, you are holding your access to health care in California, Nevada and yes, even Hawaii.

While this "access card" might not allow you to see the doctor of your choice, it does give you access to medical care funded through the government's Indian Health Services. I have just finished contacting each of the Clinics and have a list along with any needed additional information. It is be posted on my website, www.markjohnsoncpn.com, under the IHS Clinics tab. If you need further information, please contact me. Dental care is also available through some of the same programs.

Members of the district also have access to the Citizen Potawatomi Community De-



velopment Corporation (CPCDC), whose mission is to "promote, educate, and inspire the entrepreneurial growth and financial well-being of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal community through financial education, access to capital, business development services, and innovative capacity-building practices. The CPCDC also offers a commercial loan program for Potawatomi member-owned businesses.

The Nation has several other benefits available to the membership in District #7, from one-time assistance with your new home closing costs to college scholarships. Applications for almost all programs are available for download from the CPN website, www.Potawatomi.org. If you do not have access to a computer, give me a call and I will be happy to drop the application you need in the mail to you, or provide you with additional information.

Please take the time to give me a call or send me an e-mail with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch,
Mark Johnson
Representative, District #7
559-351-0078
Mark.Johnson@Potawatomi.org

FireLake Gifts
Inside the CPN Cultural Heritage Center
Pendleton Blankets, Beading Supplies, Art, Books,
and much, much more

District #8 - Dave Carney

Bohzo, Jayek (Hello, All) –

The year 2011 starts with all the promise and excitement of every New Year, and for many of us, a resolution or two. The New Year should be a time for planning and mapping out the year ahead. It can also be a time of new beginnings.

New Year's Resolution: If you live in District #8 and are not currently receiving regular e-mails from me, it means I do not have your e-mail address. Please make it your New Year's resolution to reach out to me by e-mail, phone, or the US Postal Service. Maybe I can answer a question for you about the Nation, get you the right form to access a program, or point you in the right direction to get a problem resolved. You'll be helping me serve you better and also help me plan for future events by knowing where the membership lives.

Remember the Anchorage meeting last year? That was only possible because individual members there reached out. This year is the year I hope to have an event in western Montana and perhaps the Dakotas. If you live in these areas of District 8, I'd particularly like to hear from you.

Planning: The Nation hosts the Family Festival the last weekend in June. It is not too early to start planning to attend, reserving hotel rooms or campground spaces, and preparing regalia. If you have questions about the festival, which families will be honored, or need a restaurant recommendation, please contact me.

By way of update: My office in Olympia, Washington is being remodeled to better meet our needs. In the fall of 2010, the exterior of the office park was repainted and now the inside of the District office is under a cloud of sheetrock dust! The end re-



sult will be a large open space where I can set up some comfortable couches and we can view movies or lectures without standing in the hallways. Stay tuned for event announcements in 2011 and plan to come to an event if you can!

New Beginnings: I hope that you will consider the New Year a New Beginning and renew your interest in your Citizen Potawatomi Nation. The new form of legislative government is unique to our tribe and allows for unprecedented access to representation and communication with tribal representatives. Attend a meeting, join a CPN group on Facebook, or come to the Family Reunion Festival. We are a unique group of 29,000-plus blood kin with a shared history and almost unlimited potential. Become a part of this exciting time in the Nation's history!

Dave Carney/*Kagashi*
District #8 Representative
www.dave-carney.com
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360.259.04027
877.335.4395

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tag Agency Notice EFFECTIVE 8/31/2010

All Citizen Potawatomi tribal members residing in the State of Oklahoma who are registering a vehicle for the first time that vehicle is registered must do so in person. We apologize for any inconvenience; but this is for the protection of tribal members who have registered their vehicles with the Nation.

Please contact the Tag Agency at 405-878-4844 for information to register your vehicle.

District #9 - Paul Wesselhöft

Native American Day (?)

Bozho, Nikanek!

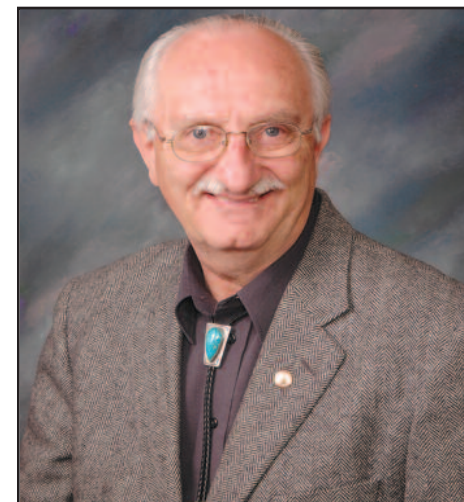
Unfortunately, there is no such national legal holiday as Native American Day in the United States. However, there have been attempts to set aside a day to honor American Indians. In 1915, the Congress of the American Indian Association issued a proclamation declaring the second Saturday of each May as American Indian Day.

Some states sponsor Native American Awareness Week. Yet even in these states, few non-Indians seem to take notice.

As a state legislator, I can pass a Resolution designating a day (such as the second Saturday in May) as Native American Day, or I can designate a week as Native American Awareness Week. I can also ask the new Governor to proclaim awareness for this day or week.

What I need to know from my readers is if this is what you would like for me to do. We could designate the week leading up to the second Saturday in May as Native American Awareness Week.

The other question that must be asked is: How would we celebrate that day or week? Would we celebrate the day or week internally or reach out to the mainstream community? Would we join with a fellow tribe or tribes to demonstrate unity of celebra-



tion? What would that day or week look like?

Will you, please, send me your thoughts on this subject? You may send me your thoughts on my other articles as well or on any subject. You can always reach me as your representative or simply as a friend. I also invite you to "friend" me on Facebook! My e-mail address is PWesselhoft@Potawatomi.org

I hope your Christmas was merry and your New Year brings you blessings from Earth and God.

Migwetch,
Paul Wesselhöft

District #10 - David Barrett

Bozho,

As this year comes to a close, all of us have seen, known, or heard about people having to go through rough times financially or physically. Understanding where our country is heading is a serious problem and depends, to a large extent, on what the "givens" that we can count on are. How will the health policies affect each of us, whether we are able to keep what we have and the services that we like? Taking care of my 94½-year-old mother on Medicare and the policies that we are forced to accept under the government mandates will drive one over the edge.

How do we plan in the future for hiring, spending, and purchasing for our businesses? We are beginning to see and hear from economists that indicators are slowly improving.

Here are my personal view and opinion. I think you need to review your past years and see what has worked best for you. Look at the positive things that you can personally make a difference in doing. Being involved with family and making an effort to get along should pay off many times over in opening those lines of communications. If you start feeling sorry for yourself, make an effort to reach out and help your fellow man like an elder or a veteran or just a neighbor. When you start looking around, you will come to the conclusion that the problems you are facing might not be as great as they seem, after hearing about the problems of others.

When you share yourself with others, you are giving a blessing and the recipient has received a blessing. There is always a need for volunteers at our hospitals and just

visiting with our elders at the rest homes and those who are shut in.

Hopefully, we will get some sound, long-term policies that will allow us to plan for our future growth in the New Year. Personally I'm not one who looks at a glass of water being half-empty but sees it as being half-full.

Looking forward to the New Year, we all need to make our New Year's resolutions on what we can honestly change over a longer period of time and not just plan on the change in a few months. Allow yourself time, then it won't disappoint you when you fall back and you don't see any progress.

My wish for the New Year for our Potawatomi Nation and our members is that we all strengthen our families and that we are better stewards of our health and our time.

Migwetch,



DBarrett@Potawatomi.org
David Barrett/Mnedobe
Legislator, District #10

District #11 - Lisa Kraft

Literally Planning for the Future

One of my plans for 2011 is to remain your District #11 (Oklahoma) Representative. I am filing for candidacy, and hope to meet several more of you in the coming months at meet-and-greet locations. I am also proud to say that I will be campaigning with fellow Oklahoma representatives David Barrett and Bobbie Bowden since we are all up for reelection this June. I will consider it a great honor to continue serving Oklahoma members for a second term.

* * * * *

As I write my last column of 2010, I can't help but reflect on all the loved ones lost. So many of my friends have had to say goodbye this year to someone they treasured. Unfortunately, I have had my own grief. My brother-in-law passed away in late October, and my best friend's father died the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

On our way to Kincaid, Kansas for the service, we passed many families on their way to visit for the Thanksgiving holiday. My thoughts always kept coming back to the same questions. Why do so many people fail to plan for the future? We all know that death is certain. Why do we go through life without writing down our family histories or take the time to write the names of our ancestors on the back of photographs? Why does a family heirloom not get pledged to a family member while the



owner is still living? And, why do so many people pass away without a will or instructions for carrying out their burial wishes?

If we treated the birth of a child as a time to document pictures and family heritage, discuss dowries, and refresh wills for custody, the burden on the bereaved would be less. I am watching my sister-in-law try to navigate social security, federal retirement savings plans, tax attorneys, and estate attorneys in hopes she can safeguard the financial future of her two girls. I have watched my best friend struggle with the loss of his father and go up against financially motivated heirs where land and trusts are concerned. All of these emotions are draining on the living; grownups still have

to function when they are caring for children. In both of these cases, no wills or funeral instructions were written or located.

When our son was born in 2003, we celebrated his life by making sure he would never have to make decisions for us when we pass away. We also spelled out backup plans for who we want to raise him in our place, how our finances will be used for his upbringing, and our hopes for his future if we are not here to express them. I don't have much, but I do have peace of mind that my passing will be one small bit easier for my son and family with my planning ahead.

I pray for a very long life surrounded by those I love. I pray your holidays and new year are filled with family and laughter. I hope that those of you reading this column will perhaps spend time this holiday look-

ing through photos and writing names and associations on the backs. I also hope you consider drafting a living will, a durable power of attorney, and a last will and testament. These are super hard things to think about at such a joyous time of year, but these safeguards may be among the greatest gifts you ever give your children. It is also very important that you share your instructions with your beneficiary or someone who will be able to see that your wishes are carried out.

I am sorry for such a serious column, but these issues are present in my life and heavy on my heart.

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa

Representative for District #11 (Oklahoma)

LKraft@Potawatomi.org

Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com

District #12 - Paul Schmidlkofer

Bozho Nikan,

We had our first Winter of 2010-11 snow today - December 8. It was not much of a snow but it did accumulate for a short time. I guess, if I didn't already know it, this was my warning for winter arriving soon. I've got my wishing hat on, and I'm hoping we don't have another winter like last year.

When I was a youngster, we lived in Duluth, Minnesota for a couple years. Dad was a career man in the Air Force, and this was one of his stations. We would absolutely have a great time out there in all that snow.

For any Okies who've never been up that far north, they have what is called lake-effect snow. What that means is the cold air would be pushed over the Great Lakes, where it would pick up moisture and then dump snow on the other side. There are a couple cities that are famous for this. One is Duluth, and the other is Buffalo, New York. Buffalo gets most of the press but Duluth got most of the snow.

As kids, this meant about five or six months of winter wonderland. And as a kid, I enjoyed it immensely. We would make snow forts and dig tunnels all over our yard - great fun for a bunch of boys who had way too much energy.

Now that I'm not a pup anymore I'm not so happy to see the stuff. For what it's worth the Farmer's Almanac said we should have a moderate winter this year. Whatever moderate is, I think it will be an improvement over last year.



Now is a good time to tell all the parents and students who are considering college that the tribe has a scholarship program for all tribal members. It is not income-dependent. The purpose and thinking behind this is that all tribal members would be served equally by any and all tribal members being able to increase their employability. It's more about being Potawatomi than anything else. So be sure to contact Chuck Clark in Tribal Rolls for the application.

If you will be visiting for the holidays I wish you safe travel. Here's wishing Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to everyone this year. God Bless.

As always it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great nation. Bama pi and migwetch,
Paul Schmidlkofer

District #13 - Bobbie Bowden

Bozho, Nikanek (Hello, my friends):

As I was driving to the dental clinic last week, I was amazed at the progress of the new tribal facilities being built. The bowling center is coming along nicely, as well as the arena/event center and I could see the dirt work started for "FIRELAKE." Fire-Lake will feature paddle boats and other activities for your families to enjoy.

By the time Family Reunion Festival rolls around next June, the grounds will be even more accommodating with more activities for everyone to enjoy. The leadership of our tribe makes these new ventures possible. It is so exciting and heartwarming to watch and see the progress for all of us to enjoy.

After the holiday season, our Oklahoma Legislators, including myself, are planning to hold several meetings around Oklahoma to meet with members and answer any questions you might have concerning any of the tribe's benefits and things that might be of interest to you. Please keep an eye on the website for the dates, times, and locations of these meetings.

You may e-mail me at BBowden@Potawatomi.org with any questions and if I may be of service to you in any way.



If you are a college student and take advantage of the scholarship program offered by the tribe, please keep in mind that you need to apply each semester. It is that time to apply for the spring/summer semester that is right around the corner.

As always, thank you for the honor and pleasure of serving each of you. I am very hopeful that I will have the opportunity to continue to serve our great nation.

Migwetch,
Bobbi Bowden
Legislator, District #13

Vice Chairman Linda Capps

Greetings,

The phrase "the hustle and bustle of the season" might be a true concept for many; however, to begin the year in a rush and end the year in a rush almost seems counter-productive. Perhaps, the end of the year is an opportune time to slow down a bit and enjoy both the fruits of our labor and the importance of our relationships for the past months.

If the Christmas and New Year holiday season is the most stressful time of the year, it may be time to analyze the self-inflicted aspect. This year might be a good time to get back to the basics of the intent of the season. Steer away from stress and depression that can come with the holidays by being realistic. We might contemplate more "thank you" opportunities with words and deeds instead of gifts and money. We might consider that "have-to-dos" actually do not "have to be done." This might include excess shopping, cleaning, cooking, and entertaining.

The fruits of labor for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in 2010 are significant. We have continued to make progress ... with our construction projects, our governmental processes, and the advancement of our new constitutional change. We have more land in trust, more economic accomplishments, more medical and social services, and more long-term employment than ever before.

We are reaching more tribal members and cultivating more important relationships than in the past years. We have more



tribal representation throughout the whole United States with the continued outreach from our esteemed legislators. We are a blessed Nation!

I am thankful to an array of individuals including our Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer, our legislators, our directors and managers, our staff members, the many tribal members with whom I have come in contact during 2010, and the numerous community and tribal leaders with whom I interact on a regular basis. I am also thankful for having served all our tribal members as your Vice Chairman both during 2010 and for my past tenure. In addition, I am thankful for my family and for the "reason for the season": Jesus Christ.

Happy Holidays to all!
Linda Capps

Attention CPN Veterans

I am Clyde Yates, a CPN member and Viet Nam veteran. I have trained as a Veterans Services Officer through the VFW, with the training done by certified VA services officers.

If you need any help with your service-connected VA disability claim, please call me at 405-598-0797. Tell the receptionist that you need assistance with a VA claim and need to contact Clyde Yates, service officer. I will return your call and set up an appointment. I will need your name and telephone number.

I look forward to talking to each one of you and helping CPN veterans.

C. 'Rowdy' Yates

405-598-0797

TVR/ODVA/VFW - A.S.A. 1967-1971 - Viet Nam 1968-1969

NAFOA Now Accepting Applications for the 2011 LEAD Summer Business Institute

The Native American Finance Officers Association is now accepting applications for the 2011 LEAD Summer Business Institute at Dartmouth College and Stanford University. The LEAD Summer Business Institute is a college preparatory program that will allow you to live on a college campus, learn about college admissions and discover how an exciting career in business or finance can benefit your Tribal community.

The program is open to high school juniors (during the 2010-11 academic year) with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher. To download an application, please visit our website: www.nafoa.org.

The deadline to apply is Jan. 20, 2011.

Chairman John Barrett

Bozho, Nikan (Hello, My Friend),

I wish you all a joyful Christmas Holiday. This is a wonderful time for family and food and celebration. Keeping it "full of wonder" these days takes a little effort, though. In the commercial barrage we all endure and the pressure to extend one's budget and schedule to the bursting point, it can often strain our individual "good nature."

In fact, the stress can make the most generous of us into "Ebenezer Scrooge" for flashes of time while standing in check-out lines and hunting for parking at the stores. It can also be a distraction from the underlying religious tradition - giving to others in memory and celebration of the birth of Christ. So, be gentle with yourself this holiday season. Fatigue takes the fun out things. Try doing it the "Tribal Way," where everyone pitches in. Doing things together, sharing the labor, can be a gift to both give and receive.

I received a great reminder of how to beat Holiday stress from one of our tribal elders just last week. He said he concentrates on his memories of the excitement and joy he felt as a young child upon awakening on Christmas morning and the build-up of the anticipation. He watches for that feeling in youngsters he encounters in the days before and during Christmas and tries to help those children keep that sense of wonder about Christmas.

Whether that is talking with the child about Santa Claus or discussing what the child is making or finding to give to siblings or parents, the enthusiasm of the young is catching and uplifting. This elder carries around a little camera to get snapshots while he talks to kids; he has a collection of "Christmas Kid" photos that he makes into a collage of pictures that he reprints on his computer. He folds this over into a Christmas card he shares with friends. It never misses putting a smile on your face to look at it.

There is a lot of variety in how our tribal families celebrate Christmas with special foods, singing, dancing, worship, gift customs, decorations, and places of gathering. Many of our families give at least one "homemade" gift, and these become treasures that are handed down as future gifts. Giving an old picture or personal object



with a story about it written out about it from a long-passed relative is also popular. Singing Christmas carols is a frequent activity, and one family uses their "eagle talking feather" to go around the room in the evening allowing each adult or child to tell a Christmas memory or wish. They say it is the only way to get the TV turned off and let everyone focus on each other.

My family always hopes for a break in the weather on Christmas afternoon so we can pitch horseshoes - our way of making more room for another helping of pie or cake. Mixed doubles, with both male and female competitors on each side, keeps a broader appeal going. We also give everyone some kind of toy, kids and adults, that all can play with together. Ping pong ball or Nerf ball guns were a big hit on past Christmas days.

I remember one foam-rubber sword fight with my grandson where I did the movie version of "You got me!" and pretended to fall dead. The fall nearly got me in reality. I've learned to stagger to a couch before "expiring" now. Play brings out the child in all of us, and helps us recall the "Wonder of Christmas."

I have been talking to several tribal members locally and my fellow employees here at the Nation about the various Christmas gift customs in their families - "Dirty Santa Claus" and "Re-gifted Fruit Cake" are popular. One family told of a 14-year-old fruitcake that has been re-gifted between family members so often they afraid to actually eat some of it.

I know of a family that passes around the

"Guardianship of an Ugly Heirloom" each year, with the requirement that a large wood carving of a fish eating a smaller fish be wrapped up and presented again to a new keeper with the story of the long-lost uncle who carved it in jail "for a crime he did not commit."

Another tells of a grandfather's WWII leather jacket that has been passed down now to a fourth generation as the younger eldest boy grows large enough to wear it. It is a treasured, but regularly worn, family heirloom.

Two families pass down "Grandma quilts" to the next generations. They are used until too worn for bedspreads and then go into storage in a cedar chest to make temporary beds for visiting children and

relatives. "Making a pallet on the floor" was a regular practice in childhood days at my Grandma's house, with 24 grandchildren who might visit her three-room house. I can still remember the smell of the quilts, the lumpy feather pillow, the aroma of my Grandpa's Prince Albert pipe tobacco, and the radio tuned to "Fibber Magee and Molly" as we lay there in the dark listening, the creak of a rocking chair faint against the radio sounds. Happy days, those childhood memories.

I hope your Holiday is fun and makes a happy memory.

Migwetch,

John Rocky Barrett/Keweoge
Tribal Chairman

UN Declaration, con't. from page 4

to fight for laws, policies, and relationships that take into account the permanent presence of Indian nations in this country, and throughout the world.

The Declaration sets an agenda for the United States and Indian nations to design a reasonable approach to a progressive realization of the duties and responsibilities in it. It serves as a guide for consultations among Indian and Alaska Native nations and U.S. governmental departments and agencies to improve the government-to-government relationship among Indian and Alaska Native nations and the United States.

In our work for Indian rights, we can and should use the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a powerful affirmation of our rights. Only through continued use will its provisions become our reality. We can use the Declaration to evaluate laws that are now on the books and for laws that may be proposed. Does the law measure up to the standards of the Declaration? Does the law or bill satisfy the requirements of the Declaration? It should. And if it does not, then it should be changed or discarded.

The Declaration can also be used as a guide for procedures and processes in dealing with indigenous peoples. Some of the most important rights in the Declaration are the right to participate in the decision-making process and the right to be consulted on important matters relating to indigenous peoples. The rights proclaimed in the Declaration can also be used to defend against

proposals and actions that violate Indian rights. The Declaration can be used in this way by all people: Indian leaders, public officials, educators, and others.

The Declaration can also be used to support and advocate for positive legislation and positive government action relating to Indian peoples. In particular, the Declaration can be used as a basis for making demands that the federal government fulfill its responsibilities to tribes and carry out its obligations to promote and respect the human rights of Indian nations and tribes. Congress needs to hold hearings to examine the United States' human rights obligations to Indians and to assess whether existing laws and policies adequately respect the rights established in international law.

Continuing to work in this way to ensure justice for Indian peoples is the best way to celebrate and honor the United States' endorsement of the U.N. Declaration. This is a very important first step in the process. We thank all of the advocates, leaders, and government officials who have made this vision of freedom and equality a reality.

Chi Migwetch

For further information about the U.N. Declaration and how you can participate in its implementation, contact the Indian Law Resource Center at 202-547-2800 or 406-449-2006, or visit www.indianlaw.org.

Robert Tim Coulter, founder and executive director of the Indian Law Resource Center in Helena, Mont., and Washington, D.C., has practiced Indian and human rights law for more than 30 years.

If You Are a Native American Who Tried to Get a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing from the USDA, You Could Receive Benefits from a \$760 Million Class Action Settlement.

A class action Settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") has been reached. The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The USDA denies it did anything wrong.

Am I included?

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;
- Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; **and**
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

You are not eligible for this Settlement if you filed a claim, or intend to file a claim, in another USDA discrimination case like Pigford I or Pigford II (Black farmers), Garcia (Hispanic farmers) or Love (Women farmers).

Because of a law passed by Congress, you are also not eligible for this Settlement if you **either**:

- Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23, 1997; **or**
- Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

What does the Settlement provide?

The \$760 million Settlement will pay cash to Class Members for valid claims as well as attorneys' fees (between 4% and 8%, subject to Court approval) and awards. The Settlement includes up to \$80 million in USDA loan forgiveness for Class Members who qualify. The USDA will pay an additional \$20 million to implement the Settlement and will make some changes to their farm loan programs. Any money left after all payments and expenses have been made will be donated to one or more organizations that help Native American farmers and ranchers.

What can I get from the Settlement?

The amount of money you will receive will depend on whether you file a claim under Track A or Track B. It will also depend on the total number of claims that are filed and approved.

Track A – You can get a payment up to \$50,000 for your discrimination claim plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

Track B – You can get the amount of your actual damages up to \$250,000. Track B requires more proof than Track A.

USDA Loan Forgiveness – Under both Track A and Track B you can get forgiveness on part or all of your eligible USDA farm loans plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

How do I get benefits?

You will need to file a claim by **December 24, 2011** to get benefits. After the Court approves the Settlement, meetings will be held across the country to help Class Members file claims. You can register for a Claims Package at the website or by calling the toll-free number.

What are my other rights?

- If you want to keep your right to sue the USDA about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **February 28, 2011**. Unless you exclude yourself, you will be bound by the terms of this Settlement.
- If you stay in the Settlement, you can object to or comment on it by **February 28, 2011**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **April 28, 2011** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and the attorneys' fees. The Court has appointed attorneys to represent the Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For More Information: 1-888-233-5506 www.IndianFarmClass.com

Tribal Area Gathering - Las Vegas, Nevada - November 20, 2010



Patsy Ruth Vauter, 83 and a member of the Pettifer family, was The Wisest Potawatomi at the meeting.

Cheree Hammond of Fredericksburg, another Pettifer family descendant, traveled farthest to attend the meeting.



These Toupin descendants are, left to right: Daniel R. Trousdale, Daniel Lee Trousdale, Katelyn Trousdale, Kenneth Parrish, Joyce Dickson, and Brian Louis Dickson. Daniel R., Joyce, and Kenneth are cousins. Daniel Lee is Daniel R.'s nephew. And, Brian is Joyce's son.



These Castanadas - Frank, Mike, Matt, Jacquez, Cody, and Domingo (left to right) - are Burnett family descendants.

Deborah Thum of Las Vegas (left) and her guest Pam chatted with Chairman John Barrett.



Dora Kalianos, Pat Roberts, and Dot Wentworth, who are in the middle row left to right, are Navarre/DeGraff descendants. The other people in the photo are Jeff Comer, his wife, and their children.



Carolyn and Frank Rappe, descendants of the Higbee family.

Here are Peltier/Pambogo family members Jonee Loring of Las Vegas, Erica Loring of Henderson, Nevada, and Renee Bender, also of Henderson.



Melissa and Rodney Rappe of Bakersfield, California are Higbee family members.

Chairman John Barrett poses with Navarre/Degraff family members Pat Roberts of Fresno, California and Dora Kaliamos and Dot Wentworth, both of Eureka, California.



Crumbo family members Peggy and Janna Broxterman of Las Vegas, attended.

Dist. #6 Rep. Rande Payne, a Tescier, visits with Barbara Sharp of Kingman Arizona, a Higbee.



Dist. #6 Rep. Rande Payne is very proud of almost-new granddaughter Emma Jo Crisp, who was the Youngest Potawatomi present. That's Emma Jo's mom, Rochelle Crisp of Visalia, California, sneaking into the photo on the right.

Rebecca Floyd (left), a Curley family member from Las Vegas, and Welch family descendant Ramona Church of Bullhead City, Arizona chat during the TAG.



Chairman John Barrett presents a Pendleton blanket to Wisest Potawatomi at the Las Vegas TAG - Patsy Ruth Venter.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CPN FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM

Stalking: Safety Planning in Public

Planning for safety outside the home may involve changing your routine, being proactive, and asking others for help. At work, other employees could serve as look-outs, or they could screen incoming calls.

Changing your routine might throw the other person off your trail. Examples of changing a routine include leaving earlier, going to a new gym, and driving different routes. Change your work hours or days, if possible.

Walking to your car could put you in danger, but if you plan ahead, you might be able to lower that risk. For example, if you change where you usually park, the other person will be less likely to locate you. You might ask a friend to walk you to your car. You can park in a well-lit area.

Travel to and from locations using roads where many people travel. If your abuser or stalker follows you, drive to a police department or fire station. If those places are not available, go to a mall or other busy location where your abuser will be less likely to follow you.

It might be embarrassing to let other people know that someone is stalking you, but the person stalking or abusing you is the person committing a crime. Talking to the people you interact with might save your life. People to talk to can include workers at your child's daycare, your minister, professors, and other people you see throughout the week. You can establish a code word or phrase with all of these people so that, if you are in danger, they would know to phone 911. The Violence Prevention Victim Advocate can help you talk to these various people.

Stalking: Safety Planning at Home

How you plan for safety in the home will depend on whether the abusive person lives with you. If you live with the person, you will need to think about what has happened previously, identify the riskiest situations, identify potential weapons, and plan how to keep safe or escape. For example, many cases of violence occur when the abusive person is abusing substances. A plan might include putting the car keys in your pocket when the person first begins drinking, avoiding the kitchen, and making an excuse to leave.

The plan will depend on the needs of the individual, but there are some general things to consider. If there are guns in the house, you will need to avoid those rooms. Kitchens contain many items that can be used as weapons. You do not want to run to an area of the house where there is no escape. If you have children, have a code word that would tell them to go next door and call the police.

If the person does not live in the house, you might consider ways to improve the security of your house. You can decide to cut down bushes that hide the view from the street, install motion-detecting exterior lights, or add dead-bolts. You can add dowels to window frames so no one can open the window from the outside. You can ask the police to do a walk-through and share ideas about how to reduce risk. Neighbors can be engaged to help keep an eye out for your stalker or abuser, and phone the police if they observe the identified person.



Citizen Potawatomi Nation Family Violence Program

Member of the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

This message was supported by monies awarded by Indian Health Services

CPN member graces Shawnee Outlook cover

Artist of the Month: Penny Coates' Heart Full of Art

True art always captures the attention of the aware observer. Art is not only something one creates with one's hands or voice, it is an experiment, a journey, and requires a willingness to expose one's inner world. Few people have the dedication and courage to really engage in this kind of journey; it takes time, commitment, and critical observation informed by humility and confidence - an uncommon combination. Shawnee native and Citizen Potawatomi tribal member, Penny Coates does just that.

It is rare to meet an artist who excels in multiple areas of artistic expression, yet Coates' flair takes many forms: pen and ink, pencil, painting, flower arrangement, and home decorating. For a special treat, Coates offered me a peek at her home, decorated early for the holiday season in order to celebrate her mother-in-law's 80th birthday, and displaying many of her works of art. I even got to poke through a portfolio of unframed work.

The house, like her artwork, is a delight to behold. Trimmed with garland, flowers, tinsel, and lights, it epitomizes holiday decorating at its best. Multiple Christmas trees boast so many ornaments one can hardly see branches. In fact, Coates pointed out a framed colored drawing she created of her ideal Christmas tree, bursting with ornaments. Needless to say, it contains no branches whatsoever. She has a particular fondness for ornaments, having collected them for many years, and inheriting a good many. The small tree in the great room is a particularly touching display, decked out with ornaments made by her son, James, when he was young. James is now a 29-year-old U.S. Army Blackhawk pilot and is part of "Mission Dustoff," a medivac unit in Iraq. The tree, topped with a yellow ribbon, serves as both a celebration and a reminder, and the hope of a safe return home.

It seems everywhere one turns the reminder of Christmas abounds. The living room decor invites a guest to sit among vintage Santas, candles, the gorgeously decorated mantle, and of course, the wonderfully illuminated main Christmas tree. It is a feast for the eyes. Indeed, in preparation of the holiday feast itself, the dining room boasts yet another Christmas



CPN member Penny Coates discusses her art, and penchant home decorating, in Shawnee Outlook's cover story for its December issue. The article was written by Rian Ada Hunter. Dejah Quinn photographed Ms. Coates for the Outlook cover.

tree with an abundance of Santa ornaments and a festive table setting. The dining room will see quite a bit of use before Christmas, however, particularly during the celebration of her mother-in-law's 80th birthday party. Coates, an avid cook, is planning a four-tiered cake decorated with 80 roses, demonstrating yet another artistic skill.

When asked about how she started in art-work, Coates related a story about herself as a child: "I remember reading a report card from kindergarten, that my teacher wrote to my mom, that she would have to pull the crayons out of my hands - that

(drawing) was my favorite thing."

Her father, Jim Post, is a retired commercial artist, so his children naturally grew up with pen, pencil, or crayons in hand. In fact, her father is Coates' biggest inspiration. His evening visits usually take the shape of an informal art lesson, and even at her level of expertise she finds his attentive eye amazingly helpful. "I am thrilled to have the blessing of learning so much from my father," Coates asserts.

After working as a professional floral designer for many years in Minnesota and Missouri, which included arranging sets for

magazine photo sessions, Coates found herself once more in Shawnee. That particular tale is almost as artful as Coates' work. Through synchronistic events (and the handiwork of two mothers), she met up with her high school/college sweetheart, Andrew, after some 36 years. Both were divorced, and a whirlwind courtship began when Andrew picked her up for their "first" date by presenting her with 36 roses, one for each year they had been apart.

A short time later, the couple became engaged, much to the delight of their children and, of course, their mothers. They were married shortly thereafter and Penny relocated to Shawnee where she is now the manager of FireLake Gifts at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center and brings her artistic flair to the task of filling the gift shop with works of art from local Native American artists.

Coates' work at the gift store allows her access to an array of Native American tradition and artwork. Not surprisingly, most of her subjects in recent years are inspired by her heritage.

Her drawings of birds and feathers are outstanding. She recently received third place from the Comanche Art Fair, the only non-Comanche to place, with her drawing of an owl - her son's favorite bird. Coates was not surprised to find herself inspired to draw an owl, but the award surprised her because, as she relates, "A lot of Native Americans do not like owls."

Coates also received first and second prizes from the Citizen Potawatomi Family Reunion Festival Art Contest with her drawings "Potawatomi Sisters" and "The Old Man" (respectively), which are stunning portraits of Native Americans. Her work has appeared in galleries, art shows, and gift shops and on her own greeting cards.

Following the path of inspiration comes naturally to Penny Coates, even if it has its share of challenges. As she remarks, "It is a life-long adventure."

Those of us living in this area are lucky to have such an adventurous artist in the community. To see more of Coates' art, visit the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center's gift store at 1899 South Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee.



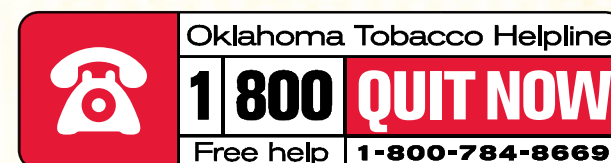
Ray Tainpeah Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Care Worker

Honor what is **SACRED**

Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.





CITIZEN POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BLUE GARDENIA, CPCDC BREW OREGON SUCCESS

If you are in the Portland, Oregon area and want a good cup of coffee or tasty treats, or need catering services, The Blue Gardenia is your best bet. Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting the Blue Gardenia. I completely enjoyed the cozy atmosphere and the friendly staff, who treated me like family, not to mention the wonderful cup of coffee. The Blue Gardenia is nestled among the unique shops and art galleries on the Historic North Mississippi Avenue.

It is the goal of Citizen Potawatomi Nation members, Linn and Marcie Goldsby, Blue Gardenia co-owners, to keep the same family-type atmosphere that existed as they grew into their store front from the booth they occupied in the Portland Farmer's Market on the campus of Portland State University. By the way, they still have a Farmer's Market booth.

Linn and Marcie are still using the recipes handed down by their father and grandfather, who owned and operated a bakery in Norman, Oklahoma, along with



CPN members Linn and Marcie Goldsby pose outside their pride and joy, the Blue Gardenia in Portland, Oregon. CPCDC has helped with the Goldsby's success.

new ones they have created or discovered through the years. Fusing new recipes with the traditional is another innovation that makes The Blue Gardenia unique.

The Goldsby's came to the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation (CPCDC) when their demand out-

grew their booth at the Farmer's Market. In order to operate a coffee shop, they needed a coffee roaster, and those come with a hefty price tag. The Goldsby's decision to involve the CPCDC came after much thought. Linn said, "Without the CPCDC, it would have been difficult to purchase the

roaster, and opening a store front would have been more complicated."

The Blue Gardenia now sells their coffee to the public, and roasts around 100 pounds of coffee beans every month. Needless to say, the Goldsby's have exceeded their goals and are optimistic about their future.

It is CPCDC's the mission to promote, educate, and inspire the entrepreneurial growth and financial well-being of the Citizen Potawatomi tribal community through financial education, access to capital, business development services, and innovative capacity-building strategies. We are here to provide support both financial and developmental for small business. We also offer a range of personal financial education products and services.

If the CPCDC can help you achieve your goal of owning a business or achieving personal financial security, please contact us at 405-878-4697.

Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation Receives \$1,000,000 from Citi/Communities at Work Fund

Communities at Work Fund™ has announced that it has approved financing for \$60 million from the Fund's total of \$200 million, which was established to help fuel small business lending in low-wealth and low-income U.S. communities. The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation was awarded \$1,000,000.

Citi provided \$199 million of capital through a combination of equity and loans with Calvert Foundation and Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) contributing the balance to launch the Fund in May 2010. Vikram Pandit, CEO of Citi, said, "Citi is committed to helping small businesses grow and succeed. Working with Calvert Foundation and Opportunity Finance Network, we are helping give small businesses

the boost they need during challenging times. These businesses strengthen communities and spur the job creation that is essential to drive our nation's economic recovery."

The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation, led by Executive Director Kristi Coker, applied for the Communities at Work Fund to further its mission to promote, educate, and inspire the entrepreneurial growth and financial well-being of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal community through financial education, access to capital, business development services and innovative capacity-building practices.

The \$1 million will allow the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Cor-

poration to increase lending capabilities to Native American-owned firms. To-date, the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation has provided loans in excess of \$17 million dollars, creating and/or retaining more than 700 jobs.

The Communities at Work Fund™ provides financing to Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Loan Funds that lend to non-profit and for-profit businesses in low-income communities. This announcement of \$60 million in lending will support CDFIs working in 39 states and Washington, D.C. They finance small businesses, advance sustainable economic development, stabilize and drive job creation, and contribute to the economic recovery of community groups - including urban

and rural business owners and minorities - that are underserved by traditional financial institutions.

Coker said, "The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation is a key part of the multi-stage economic development strategy designed by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to address the lack of economic opportunities available to its tribal members. We provide capital and technical assistance for projects that foster a healthy tribal economy."

According to executive director Coker, "This funding came at a critical time of need for small businesses across the country. We applaud Citi, Opportunity Finance Network, and the Calvert Foundation for

See CPCDC on page 24

Tecumseh's 'Crown Jewel' Closing

By GLORIA TROTTER, Editor, Tecumseh Countywide

The Maverick Hotel, billed as the world's smallest hotel and known as the crown jewel of Tecumseh, will host its last guests during the weekend of December 18&19. Owner Cherie Trousdale says that she has made the difficult decision to close the two-suite hotel in the historic former bank building at Broadway and Washington.

Cherie and her late husband Bob, a Citizen Potawatomi Nation member, bought the building in 2005, the same year she retired from her teaching job. Bob had recently been through a Ritz-Carlton training course as part of his job with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and came home convinced they could run a hotel.

"It was his dream," Cherie said. "It was our dream, but he was the dreamer who made the dream come true. I found great joy in helping him achieve that dream, but it's not the same without him."

Bob was diagnosed with cancer not long after the hotel opened in June 2007 and died in the spring of 2010. "It's been a great joy to be a part of Tecumseh and what's going on downtown," said Cherie. "I'm a servant kind of person at heart ... But with a hotel, you wait until they come to you."

Without the responsibility of the hotel, Cherie will be able to "do things for people" on her own schedule. She will also be able to travel, starting the week after the Maverick Hotel closing with a journey west to spend Christmas with daughter Amanda and her family in Whittier, California. She will also visit relatives in other parts of California.

"Amanda and Jason are adopting two boys from Ethiopia," Cherie said. "I want to be part of their lives like I have with B.J." Daughter B.J. Trousdale and her son Trae



Bob Trousdale poses outside his pride and joy on December 2, 2008. At lower left, Cheri and Bob Trousdale pose with Maverick Hotel guest/renowned singer-fiddle player Jenna Jae on August 25, 2007.

live close by and have been part of the hotel adventure. Trae in particular will miss it, his grandmother said.

Cherie is not planning to sell the historic building. After all, she lives there, in the second floor home she and Bob designed as part of the building renovation. She hopes to rent out the ground floor space for retail

or office space - "somebody else's venture and dream ... It's in great shape," she said, "and I think I would be a good landlady."

But she's not counting anything out. "I know it will all work out," she said. "I'll just do what comes into my path ... I have to become more a risk-taker. I learned from Bob that there's joy in going out on a limb."

CPCDC con't. from page 23



At top, Marcie Goldsby creates tarts for one of the Blue Gardenia's Portland, Oregon customers and, above, one of the Blue Gardenia's cuter creations features a pink primate.

implementing such an innovative program and getting the funds deployed to community development finance organizations in such a timely manner."

For more information about the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation please contact us at 405-878-4697.

CDFI Loan Funds have a 30-year history of serving as effective channels for creating economic opportunities in underserved communities while providing positive financial results. According to 2008 OFN Member Data, CDFI Loan Funds provided \$1.6 billion in financing in 2008 and have loaned \$16 billion cumulatively, supporting more than 50,500 small businesses. In addition, the OFN CDFI Market Conditions Report, fourth quarter 2009, notes that CDFI Loan Funds' net charge-offs were lower than those of FDIC-insured institutions in 2008 and in 2009. For more information about the Communities at Work Fund, please visit www.communitiesat-workfund.com.

